



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 2714**  
Makoto KOMATSU et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2003\_0950A  
Serial No. 10/617,025 : Group Art Unit 1796  
Filed July 11, 2003 : Examiner Olga Asinovsky  
SOLID REAGENTS : **Mail Stop: Amendment**

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**STATEMENT CONCERNING COMMON OWNERSHIP**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER  
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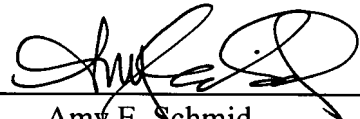
Sir:

Application 10/617,025 and US Patent 6,844,371 were, at the time the invention of Application 10/617,025 was made, owned by Ebara Corporation.

As indicated in MPEP 706.02(1)(2)(II), this statement alone is sufficient evidence to disqualify US Patent 6,844,371 from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) against the claims of Application 10/617,025.

Respectfully submitted,

Makoto KOMATSU et al.

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